

WELCOME BOLDNESS IN ALLEID STRATEGY.

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5/5/42. H. H. H. H.

Further newspeel peeps behind the shuttered and somewhat dirty windows of Vichy coincide with the welcome news that Britain has landed a force in Madagascar; jumping in ahead of an Axis attempt to seize this vital, strategic island off the south-east coast of Africa. Blimey, the tide has turned, hasn't it?

The Allies saw that even the feeble grip of Marshal Petain was loosened on the destiny of France: notice the Nazi salute of the Vichy Frenchmen. This is the man whose word we should have to trust in negotiations with conquered France: Laval, whose habit of eating frogs makes him technically a cannibal.

Biggest stake in all the ^{Sam King} ~~gaming~~ game they play between Vichy and Berchtesgaden is the French Fleet: ~~which is already sunk~~ none knows that better than Admiral Darlan; ~~the Vichy fleet is a shambles~~.

The French Empire could be a powerful Ally; but Vichy trickery has made it vital that the Allies should step into Syria and now Madagascar: there will be no repetition here of the seduction of French Indo-China. America has been sending food for the hungry little children of France: but even Uncle Sam's great-heartedness, is too highly tried by Vichy's perpetual dishonesty. Admiral Leahy, the United States Ambassador, has been recalled to America. Britain and America have agreed on the policy, in this, as in all other theatres of war: ~~and~~ we may expect even closer co-operation following the arrival of Admiral Stark and Ambassador Winant.

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The Admiral holds the office of Commander of all United States Naval Forces operating in European waters. Like all America's leaders he's all in favour of offensive action, but he's not giving away any secret information to the microphone.

We glance back at the meeting of Churchill and Roosevelt in mid-Atlantic: the agreement they reached then is still effective: Britain and America know that Madagascar must be kept out of Axis hands to protect our sea route ^{of} the Cape: it's a grand thing to be getting the habit of getting in first.